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LETTER DATED 22 AUGUST 1990 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CHINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the letter from His Excellency Mr. Qian Qichen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, in reply to your letter dated 8 August 1990 concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) LI Daoyu
Permanent Representative of the
People's Republic of China to
the United Nations

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

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Annex

[Original: Chinese]

Letter dated 22 August from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of China addressed to the Secretary-General

I have received your letter dated 8 August. I wish to take this opportunity to reiterate the position of the Chinese Government: China has consistently maintained that disputes between States should be settled peacefully through negotiations instead of by resorting to force. Basing itself on this principle, China is opposed to Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait, demands that the Iraqi forces immediately and unconditionally withdraw from the territory of Kuwait and does not accept the situation created by the Iraqi military invasion. It was precisely on the basis of this position that the Chinese Government voted in favour of the Security Council resolutions 660, 661, 662 and 664. As a permanent member of the Security Council, China sets great store by its fulfilment of the obligation and responsibility under the Charter for maintaining international peace and security. In an earnest implementation of resolution 661, the Chinese Government has adopted the following measures:

I. An inter-ministerial body, which encompasses the relevant ministries under the State Council, for the overall co-ordination of and supervision over the implementation of the resolution has been set up, with the Foreign Ministry as the chief co-ordinator.

II. On 2 August, the Spokesman of the Foreign Ministry announced that no weapons would be sold to Iraq.

III. On 7 August, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade prescribed rules on trade with Iraq and Kuwait which were immediately communicated to its subordinate institutions and corporations: 1. to stop importing any commodity and product from Iraq and Kuwait; 2. to stop exporting any commodity and product, including military goods, to Iraq and Kuwait; 3. to stop implementing all business contracts with Iraq and Kuwait which had been signed by companies concerned before Security Council resolution 661 was adopted.

IV. On 7 August, the Chinese General Administration of Customs issued a circular to all its subordinate customs offices across the country, requesting them to strictly implement the relevant provisions of Security Council resolution 661.

V. Other government departments concerned have also adopted corresponding effective measures.

QIAN Qichen
Foreign Minister
People's Republic of China